



## An holistic learning community where all thrive



We have reached the end of the first term, and what a term it has been! I am sure you have found it as challenging as we have, unable to have the usual interactions with each other that we enjoy so much. We love to share with you how your child is getting on and what has been happening in school. Welcoming you in for events and having parent helpers has always been such a part of school life and there is now a big gaping hole instead.

However, the children are able to come to school safely, and their laughter and excitement fills the day, and our hearts, and for that we are very thankful.

### Forest School (For more information click [here](#))

Autumn has been such a beautiful season to be learning outside and Forest School sessions are particularly fun. On one, rainy session, the children used the blackberries from the field to make crumble, which they then had for their pudding that day. Daphne, has been joining the children (bubbling of course) and casting her magic which brings out the children's caring side and helps them to forget themselves.



### Learning



All have been working hard to make up the gap in learning that we experienced this summer, and the result is that every child is settled and thriving. I hope you found your Parent Teacher meeting helpful. We all agreed it was so nice to be able to talk to you all individually about your children. We bought the meetings forward this year to inform you as soon as we were able, of how to help your children so we can all support them in closing the gaps in their education, following lockdown.



### New Starters

We have welcomed our new children, who are a delight! They are a confident bunch and I'm thinking of letting them take over the running of the school soon. For our new parents, Helen Nash will be holding a zoom parent teacher meeting after half-term to share with you how your child has settled in and the next steps in their learning. More information will be sent by Parentmail.





### Next Term

There will be a couple of changes to the timetable after half-term. Hedgehogs Forest School day will be on a Wednesday and PE will be Fridays.

As we look towards the next term, we are busily planning ways to make it a magical Christmas, despite

not being able to perform our Nativity for our families, share Christmas lunch with you and take a trip to the theatre to watch the pantomime. We won't even be able to visit the forest to choose the school Christmas tree. Therefore, all ideas are welcome to help us to celebrate Christmas in a Covid safe way.

The weather will become colder and it is important the children have warm, dry layers, especially on Forest School days. It is time for the wellies to be hung up and replaced with thick, warm snow boots and socks. Waterproof, lined gloves are a must and warm hats all help to ensure your child still has an enjoyable time.



No-one imagined we would still be fighting the virus and the plan was to reintroduce hot lunches after half-term. Sadly, people are still catching and dying from the illness and the levels have increased rather than decreasing. This means the class still need to bubble for packed lunch and eat in their classrooms and take their breaks separately. The children do, however really enjoy the more relaxed, more comfortable experience of eating in their classes.

We play calming music and they have learnt why it is important not to waste food and why we should recycle everything we can and they have taken over collecting the scraps and taking them to the compost area and

preparing and collecting the packaging for recycling. Clare Boardman has supported the children in Squirrels class in finding out more about this and what they can do, which has enthused them tremendously.



As you know, the Nursing team will be carrying out flu nasal spraying at school on the afternoon of Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> November. Please fill in the forms that were sent to you on Parentmail so the team know whether you would or would not like your child to receive this.



The children will break up for school on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and there is no late-stayers on that day. This is because we realised the last day of each term is an exciting one for the children and they all leave buzzing with their holiday plans. For any children unable to go at 3pm and start their holiday time, it is sad to see their friends leave and makes them very unhappy. We would prefer for this to be a positive experience instead.



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## Staff

Early-Risers (and always a smile)	Clare Garland
Office Heroes	Sarah Worsley (admin) & Julia Miller (Finance)
Not so prickly Hedgehogs	Helen Nash, Lucy Gyau-Awuah, Kim Swain, Rob Small, Claire Darnley
Busy and energetic Squirrels	Kirsty Cartwright, Liz Taylor, Kajal Wright, Clare Boardman
Sport Superstar	Rob Small
Musical maestro	Cate McKee
Professeur de français	Rob Small
Forest School Akela	Kim Swain
SENCO	Selina Davies
Assistant SENCO & Well-being	Liz Taylor
Cleaning Fairy & dinner lady	Lisa Lawrence
Late-Stayers/children's entertainer	Rob Small (again! What would we do without him 😊)
DSL – Safeguarding Lead	Selina Davies
Assistant DSL	Helen Nash
Headteacher, stand in teacher, sometimes dinner lady, sometimes toilet cleaner etc, etc	Selina Davies

Have a safe and happy half-term and we will see you all on 2<sup>nd</sup> November!  
Love from all of the above x

P.S.  
For a closer, larger view of these photographs and many more from this term, please click [here](#) We will be uploading them throughout the weekend so keep checking in.



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